



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10**

1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

July 7, 2004

Reply To
Attn Of: ECL-117

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: EPA Performing Five-Year Review of Superfund Cleanups in the Bunker Hill "Box" and Coeur d'Alene Basin

FROM: Kathryn M. Davidson, Acting Director
Office of Environmental Cleanup

TO: Parties Interested in the Bunker Hill Superfund Site

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would like to notify you that we are performing a comprehensive Five-Year Review of the Bunker Hill Mining and Metallurgical Complex Superfund Site. EPA will complete the review by September 2005. We are required by law to review Superfund sites every five years after remedial action begins. This review is a checkup to make sure the cleanup is moving forward as planned, and that it protects public health and the environment. It will not change EPA's cleanup approach, but may make recommendations for improvements. EPA will evaluate the progress of the cleanups at the site's three "Operable Units": the Bunker Hill "Box" populated areas (Operable Unit 1), the "Box" non-populated areas (Operable Unit 2), and the Coeur d'Alene Basin (Operable Unit 3).

The Bunker Hill Mining and Metallurgical Complex Superfund Site is on EPA's National Priorities List of the nation's most contaminated hazardous waste sites. Contaminants are metals from years of historic mining in the area - mainly lead, arsenic, zinc, and cadmium. The cleanup has covered a wide range of remedies. A few are:

- cleaning up residential yards
- cleaning up commercial areas, rights-of-way, and common areas
- cleaning up recreational areas along the South Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River
- removing waste from historic mining and industrial facilities, then moving it to several repositories, where it is stabilized and capped
- treating mine water at the Central Treatment Plant

If you have any information you would like us to consider during our review process, please send it to Sheila Eckman, EPA Region 10, 1200 Sixth Avenue, ECL-113, Seattle, Washington 98101, or e-mail eckman.sheila@epa.gov by **August 16, 2004**. There will be an opportunity for the public to review the draft report in the Spring/Summer of 2005. If you have questions, please call Sheila Eckman or my staff at 206-553-0455 or toll-free at 1-800-424-4372, extension 0455. TTY users may call the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339 and give the operator Sheila Eckman's phone number.